

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 11849 011207Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NEA-10 IO-13 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 RSR-01 /152 W

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R 011057Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5289

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

S E C R E T BANGKOK 11849

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SEATO

SUBJECT: SEATO: SECGEN'S REPORT ON ROWM AND STRUCTURE OF ORGANIZATION

CINCPAC ALSO PASS POLAD

REF: A. BANGKOK 11386

B. CANBERRA 4131 (NOTAL)

C. CANBERRA 4213

1. ASST SECY BIRCH'S PRELIMINARY VIEWS REPORTED REFTEL C REFLECT SOME MISUNDERSTANDING OR UNFAMILIARITY WITH SECGEN'S RECOMMENDATIONS RE FUTURE ROLE AND STRUCTURE OF SEATO. AS REPORTED REFTEL A, SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE COMPOSED OF MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIVES ARE ADDRESSING REPORT AND WILL PREPARE INITIAL DRAFT OF COUNCIL REPS REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE REVIEW (WHICH WILL INCORPORATE MEMBERS' VIEWS ON FUTURE ROLE AND STRUCTURE OF ORGANIZATION). REPS' REPORT WILL BE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR PRESENTATION TO CUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 28. (AUSTRALIAN PWG MEMBER INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HE CABLED THIS INFO TO CANBERRA ON JULY 21.)

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SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 11849 011207Z

2. RE SUGGESTION REPORT MERELY RESHUFFLES FUNCTIONS, SECGEN'S REPORT

DOES INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SOME REDUCTIONS IN SEATO ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY ON MPO SIDE. WHILE SECGEN'S PROPOSED REORGANIZATION COMBINING CIVIL SECRETARIAT AND MOP REQUIRES SOME RESHUFFLING, WE BELIEVE SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE PRESENTLY ADDRESSING REPORT WILL RECOMMEND FURTHER CUTS IN POSITIONS.

3. RE SEATO PLANS, SECGEN'S REPORT DOES NOT REPEAT NOT SIMPLY CALL FOR RETENTION OF EXISTING SEATO PLANS AND THEIR REVIEW EVERY SIX MONTHS. ACTUALLY, IT CALLS FOR CANCELLATION OF TWO PLANS, I.E., PLAN 5 TO ASSIST LAOS IN COUNTERING COMMUNIST INSURGENCY AND PLAN 6 FOR DEFENSE OF SVN, LAOS, AND CAMBODIA AGAINST OVERT NVN ATTACK. IT CALLS FOR REVISION OF PLAN 8 FOR ASSISTANCE TO RTG IN COUNTERING COMMUNIST INSURGENCY. PLAN 4 FOR DEFENSE OF SEA AGAINST OVERT PRC AND NVN ATTACK WOULD BE REVISED TO LIMIT IT TO DEFENSE OF THAILAND AND PHILIPPINES. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THIS PLAN AND PLAN 9 FOR THE DEFENSE OF THAILAND AGAINST OVERT NVN ATTACK WOULD BE RETAINED IN OUTLINE FORMS ONLY SUBJECT TO PERIODIC UPDATING AS DIRECTED BY MILADS

4. RE REFTEL B, COPY SECGEN'S REPORT POUCHED TO CANBERRA, ATTN: POLITICAL SECTION, JULY 26.
UNGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO11849
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS UNGER
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730866/aaaabwhh.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BANGKOK 11386, 73 CANBERRA 4131, 73 CANBERRA 4213
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Oct-2001 by eisnerah>; RELEASED <23-Oct-2001 by eisnerah>; APPROVED <27-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEATO: SECGEN'S REPORT ON ROWM AND STRUCTURE OF ORGANIZATION CINCPAC ALSO PASS POLAD
TAGS: MARR, SEATO
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005